

Serial No.: 10/072,953
Atty. Docket No.: P67089US0

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed August 11, 2005, has been carefully reviewed and Applicants note with appreciation the identification of allowable subject matter.

By this Response, Applicants have canceled claim 4, amended claims 1-3 and 5-7, and added claims 11-20. Claims 1-3 and 5-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2 and 11 are independent.

The Examiner requested that a copy of "Numerical Recipes in C: The Art of Scientific Computing", referenced on page 6 of the specification, be provided and cited on an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS). Accordingly, an IDS is filed concurrently herewith along with the cited publication. Consideration of and placement of the cited art on the record is requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,131,082 to Hargrave, III et al. ("Hargrave") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,301,109 to Landauer et al. ("Landauer"). The Examiner also rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hargrave and Landauer and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,760,695 to Kuno et al. The Examiner objected to claims 4-7 and 10 as being dependent on a rejected base claim but stated that

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claims 4-7 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 2 to include the limitations of claim 4. In that claim 4 was directly dependent upon claim 2 and was indicated to contain allowable subject matter, amended claim 2 is in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has also been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 4 and is presented as being in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as amended claim 2.

New claim 11 represents the subject matter of claim 10 rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of original claims 2 and 3, and is therefore in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter in claim 10.

Claims 3, 5-10 and new claims 12-20 are in condition for allowance as claims properly dependent on an allowable base claim and for the subject matter contained therein.

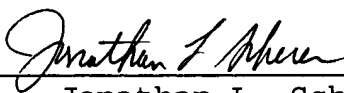
With this amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition

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for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the present application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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